TL 1396

Draft Plan of activities for East Timor, 1990

1. Spotlight on Decolonisation

The key documents are:
i. Bishop Belo's letter of 6 February 1989 and ET students' letter of 19 September 1989.
ii. Xanana's peace plan.
iii. UN resolution 43/47, 22 November 1988 declaring 1990-2000 the 'International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism'.

The key dates and campaigns are:

6 February 1990, anniversary of Belo's letter:

All groups to write to UN Sec.Gen., their own governments, UNAs, parliamentarians, local Portuguese embassies, etc calling for: proper implementation of UN Resolution 37/30, 1982 (Western govts are misinterpreting this as instructing the UN Sec.Gen to hold *bilateral* talks, only involving Portugal and Indonesia), positive response to Bishop Belo's letter, draw attention to Xanana's peace plan.

European Parliament hearing on East Timor

Likely to be held in May or June 1990 in Brussels. Support and publicity will be needed.

UN Decolonisation Committee, August 1990

Need to ensure a record number of petitioners.

7 December 1990, 15th anniversary of Indonesian invasion

Coordinated protests outside Indonesian embassies everywhere.

NB: A special campaign is needed by youth and student organisations to rally support for the ET students' appeal to the UN.

2. Campaign against Timor Gap Treaty

The main targets are the Australian government and parliament, Portuguese government and own governments. The objectives are, to oppose ratification of the Treaty by the Australian parliament (this may take place in March or April 1990), to urge Portuguese government to seek a ruling on the illegality of the Treaty from the International Court of Justice, and to oppose any investment by oil companies in the disputed area.

Campaigning

Protests outside Australian embassies, as soon as possible.
Letters to the Australia PET group, urging strong opposition.

Letters to Portuguese governments and own governments.

3. Continuously exposing human rights abuses

It is necessary to keep ourselves informed of latest situation on abuses, and always to respond by writing to governments to keep the pressure up.

Key events are:

UN Human Rights Commission, February-March 1990

The targets are:

i. to persuade as many Commission members and NGOs to mention ET in their statements and submissions.
ii. to try to have a resolution on ET adopted by the Commission.

UN Human Rights Sub-commission, August 1990

The targets are the same as above and will be largely affected by the results achieved at the Commission.

7 January 1990